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The Mysterious Ship











Chapter 1 by Kallaway Haystings

The ship hung, suspended in time and forgotten by the race of men. Lichen had so fully covered the body of the ship, that it looked to be like some mutated, horrifyingly beautiful creature from the depths. The sails where in rags, and spun slowly around the ship, at the mercy of the ever shifting currents. The hull was damaged, huge holes blown out from some time before the mighty ship had fallen. Bubbles ever so often escaping from the bowls of the ship to float to the surface, twinkling and glittering with a rainbow film-like substance that had been slowly leaking from a secret cargo for over fifty years.

Around the ship, animals that had lived in the coral reefs, on the rock selfs and whose hunting grounds surrounded the ship where slowly changing.

Chapter 2 by Artis Planeswalker



She lay in the deep, empty, darkness. Wrecked by her crew for their greed turned curse. Her anger turned cold and calculating decades ago. Contained in her holds is a statuette, an idol of a mermaid being devoured by the sea demon Morgathi. She was alive because of this statuette, more and more transformed by its evil, like the creatures in the sea around her.

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With eerie purpose her sails took form again and lifted her out of the silt layered ocean floor. And as the algae fell away from her hull her masthead was revealed, the mermaid being devoured by the sea demon. Her transformation was complete and her revenge would begin.

Chapter 3 by Windlion



The bo'sun chose Seabat as the starboard lookout -- the windward side, damn him, and just because of the coffee -- but he took it in stride and scanned the darkening horizon, three steps left, one back, two left ... he gasped as the ship heeled to starboard and threw a torrent of windblown water-turned-needles into his face. Wiped off the binocular lenses, wiped off his face, and went back to searching for anything the radars might have missed.

"Yo, Bat, I'm here to relieve you. Boats says, twenty minute shifts, then back in to dry out."

"Reilly? Thanks, man." Seabat knew that the bo'sun wouldn't have cut his punishment short if someone hadn't spoken up for him, and he guessed it was Reilly. "Owe you big time."

"I'll add it to your -- what the fuck is that!? And Seabat spun back to look in the direction of Reilly's terrified stare.

The mainmast showed in the wave troughs first, disappearing under the crests and then looming higher -- like a submarine periscope, Seabat thought wildly, but not -- and then the tattered royal sail appeared along with the foremast. His mind told him that the great clipper ships of the old salts' tales do not rise from the depths, but it was clear what he was seeing.

"Sh -- Ship on the starboard quarter!" he shouted, and stared unmoving, seemingly unaware as the ship leaned to starboard and threw another slashing rain of needles at him, still unmoving as the bo'sun, then the Officer of the Deck, and then even the Captain rushed out on the bridge wing.

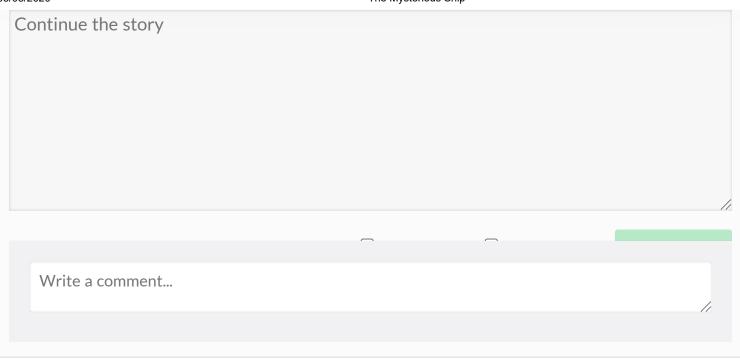
Write a draft for chapter 4 of 8 (1 draft)

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